Austrian Tax News

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MoF: Photovoltaic Decree 2025

Content

- 01 MoF: Photovoltaic Decree 2025
- 02 MoF: classification of tax claims in insolvency proceedings
- 02 MoF: preliminary information on reporting nominee agreements under Beneficial Owners Register Act

On 30 July 2025, the MoF published the revised Photovoltaic Decree (2025-0.461.257) on the tax treatment of photovoltaic systems and energy communities, replacing the Photovoltaic Decree of 24 February 2014 (BMF-010219/0488-VI/4/2013) and taking into account the legislative changes of recent years. The revised decree spans 55 pages and includes numerous illustrations, tables, and examples.

The tax treatment in the areas of (corporate) income tax, value-added tax, and electricity tax is based on the three types of usage: full supplier (Volleinspeiser), surplus supplier (Überschusseinspeiser) and off-grid operation (Inselbetrieb). The temporary zero VAT rate for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2025 (Sec 28/62 Austrian VAT Act) has been incorporated into the decree.

For the first time, energy communities are included. This covers the Shared Generation Systems (Gemeinschaftlichen Erzeugungsanlagen) existing since 2017, as well as the models introduced in 2021 for Renewable Energy Communities (Erneubare-Energie-Gemeinschaft) and Citizen Energy Communities (Bürgerenergiegemeinschaft).

The new Photovoltaic Decree is applicable starting with the 2025 assessment year. Taxpayers may also refer to this decree for earlier assessment years.



MoF: classification of tax claims in insolvency proceedings

Insolvency Act

In a response dated 30 July 2025, the MoF addressed a query from the Chamber of Tax Advisers and Auditors (Kammer der Steuerberater:innen und Wirtschaftsprüfer:innen) regarding the classification of tax claims under insolvency law.

For advance payments of (corporate) income tax, the tax claim arises at the beginning of the quarter of a calendar year. The classification as insolvency claim (Insolvenzforderung) or claim against the insolvency estate (Masseforderung) depends on whether the opening of insolvency proceedings occurs before or after the respective quarter begins. For assessment-based taxes, the claim arises at the end of the calendar year. According to the case law of the Austrian Supreme Court (OGH), a split must be made according to whether the underlying circumstances arose before or after the opening of insolvency proceedings.

The MoF <u>response</u> also addresses, among others, the following taxes and circumstances:

- (Corporate) income tax
- Real estate income tax
- Value-added tax
- Wage related taxes
- etc.

MoF: preliminary information on reporting nominee agreements under Beneficial Owners Register Act

Beneficial Owners Register Act

The MoF provides a <u>preliminary information</u> on the upcoming changes regarding the reporting of nominee agreements (trust arrangements) under Sec 4a Austrian Beneficial Owners Register Act (Wirtschaftliche Eigentümer Registergesetz, WiEReG).

As of 1 October 2025, all nominee agreements must be reported, introducing a separate reporting category. All parties – nominators, nominees, and nominee directors – must be reported, even if no beneficial ownership exists. Exemptions no longer apply; reporting is required within four weeks from entry into force.

The rules apply to all reports submitted after 30 September 2025. The forms will be updated with a dedicated tab for nominee agreements. Before the provisions take effect, the MoF will circulate a revised decree and publish updated examples.

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